

WITHERING FIRE OF FRENCH HOLDS GERMANS AT BAY

They Reply, Shot for Shot,
to Unprecedented Bom-
bardment.

SAVE ALL EXCEPT ONE
SECTION OF TRENCHES

In Section West of Douaumont
Repulse Teutons, Inflicting
Heavy Casualties.

BATTLE CONTINUES UNABATED

East of Cumières Paris Claims Ad-
vance in Hand-Grenade
Fighting.

The battle of Verdun continues unabated on both sides of the Meuse River, northeast and northwest of the fortress. The Germans are keeping up their unprecedented bombardments and vicious infantry attacks, while the French are replying to the German guns virtually shot for shot, and under a withering fire holding the Germans at almost every point.

One more gain, however, has been made by the Germans. After recapturing the fort Douaumont, and taking trenches south and southwest of the fort, the Germans to the west have occupied a section of French trenches after a series of attacks, in all of which they were repulsed with heavy casualties, except the one where they penetrated the French lines.

Around Douaumont a heavy artillery duel is in progress, and northwest of Verdun the Germans have increased their artillery fire against the French on hill 364, probably preparatory to another infantry attack for possession of this much-fought-for vantage point.

A German attack against the Russians west of Dailien Island gave them momentarily the possession of a Russian advanced trench, a counterattack by the Russians dislodging the invaders.

An attempt by the Teutons to advance against the Russians north of Olyka station, southeast of Lutsk, was repulsed by the Russians.

In the region southeast of Trent and across the border in Italy, Rome reports the repulse of Austrian attacks and the throwing back of the attackers in disorder. In the Astico-Tosina region the Italians are replying effectively to the bombardment of the Austrians. In the Asiago-Sugana valley district, the situation is unchanged.

Petrograd reports a junction of Russian troops with the British forces in the region of Kuzel-Amara. The Russians came from the region of Kerem-shah and Kasr-I-Shir, in Persia northeast of Baghdad. This announcement probably refers to the force of Cossacks, which was officially reported several days ago from London to have joined the British.

GERMANS REPULSED
WITH HEAVY LOSSES

PARIS, May 25.—The French night official report was as follows: "On the left bank of the Meuse, the activity of the German artillery increased during the day against our positions on hill No. 364.

"On the right bank of the Meuse, after violent bombardments, the Germans at 5 o'clock in the afternoon initiated a series of offensive actions between Haudouin and Thiaucourt farm. All the attacks were repulsed with heavy losses, excepting at one point, where small enemy groups captured part of one of our trenches. In the region of Douaumont, artillery fighting continues violently on both sides. A shell from one of our long-range guns caused a fire in a German depot at Haudouin.

"On the rest of the front there was intermittent cannonading.

"Aviation: During an air fight, one of our pilots brought down a Fokker, which fell behind the German lines, to the north of Vaux.

"In the region of Etain, one of our air squadrons gave battle to a group of German machines. Two of the enemy aeroplanes were seriously damaged and obliged to land."

SALANDRA AND SONNINO TO
RETURN ASQUITH'S VISIT

ROME, May 24 (via Asquith, May 25).—It is stated on good authority that Premier Salandra and Foreign Minister Sonnino will leave shortly for London to return the visit of Premier Asquith to Rome.

The official bulletin issued to-night by the War Department indicates further the defense line taken up by the Italians who are still on Austrian territory in the Lagnina Valley, where the attempts of the Austrians to recapture the village of Marco, about fifteen miles south of Rovereto, have failed.

In the Arsa Valley, on the direct route to Vicenza, the Austrians and Italians are fighting on the frontier line. Between this point and the Astico River, the Italians have withdrawn from the upper basin of Posina River, which comprises part of the Terragnola Valley, and have concentrated in the Arsiere basin, which descends to Schio and Vicenza.

TIDE OF VERDUN BATTLE
FLOWS AGAINST FRENCH

PARIS, May 25.—The tide of battle at Verdun flowed against the French during the last twenty-four hours. The German tanks, following the smashing blows which took from them the greater part of Fort Douaumont, hurled their legions once more against the ruins, which retain by courtesy the title of fort, and by lavish expenditure of life, succeeded in partly retrieving the ground they had lost on the right

(Continued on Second Page.)

King George Signs Compulsion Bill

Calls to Colors All Males, Mar-
ried or Single, Between the
Ages of 18 and 41.

LONDON, May 25.—The signature of King George to-day was affixed to the military service bill recently passed by Parliament.

In giving the royal sanction to the bill, King George issued the following message to the nation: "To enable our country to organize more effectively its military resources in the present great struggle for the cause of civilization, I have deemed it necessary to enroll every able-bodied man between the ages of eighteen and forty-one."

"I desire to take this opportunity of expressing to my people my recognition and appreciation of the splendid patriotism and self-sacrifice they displayed in raising by voluntary enlistment since the commencement of the war no less than 5,041,000 men—an effort far surpassing that of any other nation in similar circumstances recorded in history, and one which will be a lasting source of pride to future generations."

"I am confident the magnificent spirit which has hitherto sustained my people through the trials of this terrible war will inspire them, and that it will, with God's help, lead us and our allies to a victory which shall achieve the liberation of Europe."

The military service bill, or, as it is better known, "the compulsion bill," was introduced in the House of Commons on May 3 as a result of voluntary enlistments not reaching the total the government considered necessary. There was much agitation for and against the measure.

The bill provides for general and immediate compulsion, and calls to the colors all males, married or single, between the ages of eighteen and forty-one. An army reserve for industrial work also is provided for in the bill, and the government may use as many of the conscripts as it requires to maintain industrial conditions intact. Ireland is excluded from the operation of the law.

GAVIRA ASKS CONFERENCE

Wants to Settle Details of Co-operation
for Chase of Bandits With
Pershing.

EL PASO, TEX., May 25.—General Gabriel Gavira, newly appointed commander of the Mexican military zone of the border, announced in Juárez today he intended to ask General Pershing for a conference to settle details of co-operation for chasing down the bandits of Chihuahua.

Such a conference, the general intimated, would be necessary because of the new Carranza troop dispositions along the Mexican Northwestern Railroad. At Casas Grandes and other points the Mexicans will be in close contact with the Americans, and General Gavira said it would promote a more efficient campaign against the bandits if he and General Pershing had a complete understanding as to the tactics to be pursued. The Mexican officer said he was seeking the conference on his own initiative. He was in telegraphic communication to-day with General Ynez Salazar, whose attempt to start a fresh revolution in Mexico met with failure. Salazar, now at Guzman, was promised amnesty and agreed to surrender as soon as written guarantees could be given.

Field Marshal von Kluck, the defeat of whose army at the battle of the Marne halted the German advance into France, was wounded by shrapnel fire in March of last year, while inspecting advanced positions.

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TEXAS MILITIAMEN MUST STAND TRIAL

Men Who Failed to Respond to
Call for Service on Border
Will Be Court-Martialed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY BAKER

Similar Proceedings Probable in
Cases of Arizona and New
Mexico Guardsmen.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—One hundred and sixteen Texas militiamen who failed to respond to the call for service on the Mexican border will be court-martialed by President Wilson. They will be subject to fines or imprisonment, as the court may direct, with the approval of the President.

Secretary Baker announced to-day that the guardsmen would be tried promptly under the Dick law, pending a previous decision to delay action in order to deal with the cases under the new Hay-Chamberlain army reorganization bill. The President himself will appoint the court-martial, and Major-General Funston has been instructed to recommend its members, a majority of whom must be officers of the Texas National Guard.

So far no steps have been taken toward prosecuting New Mexico and Arizona guardsmen, who, like the Texans, have failed to "present themselves for muster." A further report from General Funston regarding them is awaited.

STATEMENT ISSUED

BY SECRETARY BAKER

Secretary Baker to-night issued the following statement:

"The Dick bill provides as an offense the failure on the part of the National Guard to present themselves for muster when called upon by the President to do so. One hundred and sixteen members of the Texas National Guard are reported to have failed to do so. Under the Dick bill they would be guilty of failure to present themselves for muster."

"When the pending legislation is approved, and the militia of the States is recognized and federalized thereunder, the obligation of the enlisted men of the National Guard will be to preserve the Constitutions of the United States and the respective States. When the President issues a call to the National Guard, the call will of its own force muster each member of the National Guard into the Federal service, and it will no longer be necessary for the men to 'present' themselves for muster."

GUILITY OF COMMITTING

OFFENSE IN DICK BILL

"The offense, therefore, will be impossible, as it will not be required that the men should 'present' themselves for muster. The Dick bill will be repealed, expressly remains in force. The 116 men in question having taken an oath to preserve the Constitution of the United States and to obey the lawful orders of the Governor of Texas, and not having yet taken an oath to obey the President as commander-in-chief, must still present themselves for muster. They are guilty, therefore, of committing the offense in the Dick bill, and are, therefore, liable to punishment."

"I have decided to have the court-martial assembled by command of the President, and have asked General Funston to recommend the members thereof. While I shall not prescribe, I shall be inclined to recommend that the proceedings be abated in cases where the men are willing to take the oath."

MAY ORDER COURT-MARTIAL

IN ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., May 25.—Trial by court-martial of the Texas militiamen who failed to present themselves for muster when called for service with the regular army on the border, may result in similar proceedings in Arizona and New Mexico.

It was indicated at General Funston's headquarters to-day that the militia organizations in those States were far more demoralized than in Texas. In Arizona only five officers and seventy men have been sworn into the regular service. The situation in New Mexico was reported to be somewhat better.

Instructed by the War Department to nominate the members of the court to hear the case of the Texas guardsmen, General Funston immediately began a preparation of a list of officers, both of the army and militia, to be submitted to Washington.

Most of the Texas militiamen who failed to take the oath are still here in a camp near Fort Sam Houston, and will be held until the hearing of their case.

KITCHIN SPENDS NO MONEY

Democratic Leader Files Statement
Concerning Primary Campaign
for Renomination.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Representative Kitchen, of North Carolina, Democratic leader in the House, filed a statement to-day showing that he had spent no money in his primary campaign for renomination, for which the Federal law required accounting.

A vigorous fight has been waged against him on account of his differences with the President on the preparedness issue.

On her last eastern trip across the Atlantic, the Washington left Newport News on April 12 and Norfolk, two days later, bound for Genoa, where she arrived May 8.

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Prominent Figures at Waite Trial



Left to right, Mrs. Elizabeth P. Hardwick, the sender of the mysterious "K. Adams" telegram which started the prosecution of Dr. Waite for murder, and Mrs. Clara Peck Waite, who both testified against the dentist.

Rare Demonstration of Unity Displayed in House of Commons

Leaders of All Factions
Flock to Standard of As-
quith in Effort to Set-
tle Irish Question.

LONDON, May 25.—The House of Commons has rarely seen a demonstration of greater unity than was displayed this afternoon when the leaders of all factions flocked to the standard of the Prime Minister in an effort to achieve a lasting settlement of the Irish question.

This was the more remarkable because a heated and acrimonious debate, it had been predicted, would follow Premier Asquith's expected statement regarding the situation and the government's proposals for a solution of the problem. Mr. Asquith's speech took an unexpected turn, for instead of giving details, he made an earnest plea for the settlement of the Irish question by agreement among the contending parties in Ireland, and announced that David Lloyd George had undertaken the delicate task of bringing the hostile factions together.

The Premier concluded with an appeal that for a time all debate on the question, both in the House of Commons and outside, be suspended, in view of the adverse effect such argument might have on the difficult undertaking facing the government.

The Premier's speech was heard with intense interest by the members, and he had scarcely summed up when John Redmond, the Nationalist leader, arose and acquiesced in the Premier's request, adding, with a voice filled with emotion, his ardent desire for a solution of the difficulties of his country.

Mr. Redmond was quickly followed by his political arch-enemy, Sir Edward Carson, who tendered his support to the proposition, and by the Independent Irish leader, William O'Brien, who did likewise.

SPEECHES EFFECTIVELY
OBLITERATE PARTY LINES

These speeches effectively obliterated party lines for the moment, and those members who had come prepared to attack the government fell in with the leaders.

The Prime Minister started by expressing the hope that the disappearance of martial law would be speedy and complete.

Referring to the sacrifices that Irishmen had made on behalf of the British empire during the present war, Mr. Asquith said:

"Could we who represent Great Britain, or could they who represent Ireland, tolerate the prospect that when this war was over and when we had, by our joint efforts and sacrifices, as we had hoped and believed we should, achieved our end, that here at home Irishmen should be arrayed against one another in the most tragic and most degrading of all conflicts—internece domestic strife?"

"I say to the House of Commons, to the country